

THE NATIONAL FORUM

VOL. I—No. 29

WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1910.

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR.

VANITY FAIR

Conducted by JOHN H. WILLS.

The Main Difference Between Civilized Man and the Savage Is—Savages Don't Read.

"We Have Met the Enemy and We Are Theirs"

Well, the war is over. After the groans of defeat and the shouts of victory are over the world will continue to whirl on just the same. It is too bad that we as colored people cannot take the same view of this victory, or defeat, whichever you may care to call it, as the rest of our fellow-citizens, because we occupy a peculiar position and special state, and perhaps national legislation has been and will be applied to us.

And so those colored voters who are joining the chorus jubilate may soon be chanting the misere. Besides a few more offices for colored men, conditions affecting the race generally are not likely to improve. There is a possible opportunity for gain for us in organized effort, care and constant study of conditions, zeal and watchfulness.

The philosophy of the result as relating to the country is well expressed in the following:

The people get tired of conditions—with good reasons—they think that a change will help them, and they make a change.

They have voted now to punish the Republican party. They put the Democratic party in power, hoping, and a few of them believing, that it will correct the evils of the Republican party.

After a while the people will get tired again of the same old story with a different name. And then they will punish the Democratic party and put the Republican party in power, hoping—and a few of the young and inexperienced believing—that it will correct the evils of the Democratic party.

And so it goes. The good, solemn, simple voter finds he is pretty hot in the Republican frying pan, and he jumps out into the Democratic fire.

By and by he gets his cunning little toes burned in the Democratic fire, and he jumps back into the Republican frying pan. He gets pretty hot there, and out he jumps, and so on.

And old Mr. Trust, who holds the frying pan in one hand while he pokes the fire with the other, smiles grimly. No matter where the little voter is, Mr. Trust has got him—for both the fire and the frying pan—the two old parties—belong to Mr. Trust.—New York Journal.

Here is a more critical analysis:

The American people on Tuesday gave a tremendous expression of censure and dissatisfaction. The real meaning of the nominally Democratic sweep of the great States east of the Mississippi was not partisan gain, but repudiation of the false leadership of the Republican party during the past two years.

The people were angered at increased burdens laid upon them. And while unconverted to the principles of the Democratic party, they used that party ticket to punish pledge-breakers, servants of privilege, corrupt machines and standpat reaction.

There were exceptions. But the rule was that where progressive Republicans had gained control of their party organization, crushed corrupt bossism and set their house in order, Republican majorities were maintained.

Uncleaned Republicanism in Massachusetts, Connecticut and Ohio was buried under mountain-high popular disapproval. New Hampshire's Republicanism, regenerated, triumphed with her sister insurgent States of the West.

New York was the most noteworthy regrettable exception. Even there, however, there was scant accession to the Democracy. The victory of Dix was due to the stay-at-home Republicans.

But in New York the dissatisfaction with the tariff and the cost of living and the general disgust with the Taft administration—so crushingly expressed in Taft's own State—was augmented by the sinister fusion of the most dangerous elements in the State.

The triple alliance of corrupt Tammany, corrupt Wall Street and the corrupt Republican bosses, beaten and discredited by Roosevelt, had much to do with the election of Dix. Their aim was to eliminate the ex-President henceforth as a factor in American politics. With characteristically blind ignorance of popular sentiment in the nation, they will exult today in the belief that they have succeeded.

The reality, of course, is that they will discover that Roosevelt has "just begun

to fight," and that he will gain, not lose, supporters throughout the land by reason of defeat at the hands of Tammany and crooked Wall Street.

Much the same sort of alliance of the corrupt elements in both parties struck at Beveridge in Indiana. But in practically every other State where Republicanism had grown decent, progressive Republicanism won.

Here at home the plurality received by Tener in Philadelphia can be regarded in no other light than a crushing defeat of the Philadelphia gang.—Philadelphia North American.

The People's Triumph

Those who see in this election a victory for the Democratic party and a defeat for the Republican party will see more if they will look a little closer. This election shows clearly that a great civic awakening is begun. The people are making efforts to throw off boss rule. They are tired of legislation for the interests, and disgusted with misrepresentation. The following extract was published Saturday, November 5, and expresses the ideals and aspirations of the majority of the men who voted Tuesday, November 7:

The present election marks the fiftieth anniversary of the election of Abraham Lincoln as President of the United States.

On a chilly day in November, 1860, just 50 years ago, Lincoln received some of his friends in his little office in Springfield. The whole country trembled with the settlement of the great issue between liberty and slavery.

Then, as now, the doubting Thomases were wont to come forward at such a moment, and there was a man in the little group who reminded Lincoln that the highly respectable elements in the community were against him, and that, of the 23 ministers of the gospel in the town, 20 were opposed to his election. Then Lincoln pointed to a Bible lying on the table, and said: "Mr. Bateman, in the light of that Book human bondage cannot live a moment. I may not see the end of this contest, but it will come, and I shall be vindicated, and these men will find that they have not read their Bible right!"

We know now how the election resulted. That November day 50 years ago was the birthday of the true freedom of this republic. It was on that day that the country ceased to be half slave and half free. It was on that day that the people of the United States covenanted themselves unalterably to a new faith in liberty, in unending progress, in a material, moral and social advancement that should know no check. They have kept the covenant until now, and if they are true to the memory of Lincoln they will go on keeping it.—New York Evening Mail.

The True Reformers and Their Bank

In a letter from Mr. W. R. Griffin, chief of the True Reformers of Washington, in which he thanks me for the stand taken regarding the bank, he expresses the hope that all may yet be settled with satisfaction and the order saved from wreck. It is pleasant to note the courageous spirit with which Mr. Griffin and the members of the order have taken this sad blow and the determination they show toward saving and helping their order in this difficulty.

Mr. Griffin says: "In a largely-attended meeting Saturday last the True Reformers voted unanimously to stand together." He believes that with \$120,000 unencumbered assets and an income of \$25,000 monthly the order will be able to meet all demands. Since the order has been debarred from operation in this city it is reported that they have paid about \$4000 in claims. This of itself shows good faith and intent.

That is what we look for—good faith, good intent, sincerity, success or failure are of little import compared to these things. That is what made the failure of the Capital Savings Bank of this city such a disgusting and offensive mishap. After having squandered the depositors' money in careless speculation and debauch, these men set about with

oil arts to trick and deceive the public as to their intent, masquerading the while under the guise of sanctimonious respectability, using at the same time every trick in the shyster's trade to clear themselves of the law and get away with what was left of the booty. That was the case with the Capital Savings Bank of Washington, D. C., and we all hope that no such thing will show up with the True Reformers' Bank of Richmond, Va.

Education and Business

Without going too far toward industrialism in education, I think every boy should be taught a trade and every girl should learn the elementary household arts, at least. The teaching of trades to boys and domestic arts to girls is elevating and disciplining. A boy with a trade has a means of making a living always on hand, and a girl will have use for her knowledge of home affairs, be she maid, wife or widow, suffragette or bachelor girl.

A proposition is now before the school board to establish vocational schools in this city, where trades will be taught. After having gained a fair schooling in the necessary elements, a pupil may take a trade course, which will include machinist work, blacksmithing, wagon and automobile construction, electrical work, plumbing, heating and tinning, carpentry, house, sign, wagon and fresco painting, paperhanging, printing, brick and stone masonry, plastering and concrete construction, practical cookery, household management, sewing, dressmaking and tailoring, besides English, mathematics, physics, mechanical drawing, chemistry and geography, is designed to teach various trades by means of which the pupils will be trained directly for economic independence.

To Mr. Arthur A. Newman of Armstrong Manual Training School belongs the credit for originating this useful idea.

On the other hand, Rev. Dr. J. Milton Waldron, one of our practical and progressive clergymen, purposes to hold a series of practical talks on business at the Shiloh Baptist Church every second Friday in each month. Business ideas and instruction is the thing we need. To teach business methods and principles is, indeed, a great good work. I hope these meetings will be well attended.

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SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. J. Milton Waldron, Pastor; 1334 V Street, N. W.; W. H. Scott, Church Editor, 1503 Pierce Place, N. W.

We extend our heartiest congratulations to Miss Maggie Price and Mr. William Barber, who were united in marriage by Dr. Waldron last Tuesday evening at his residence, 1334 V street N. W., after which the young couple, with a few intimate friends, partook of a wedding supper at the residence of the bride's aunt, Miss Sarah Price, 1622 Church street N. W. Mr. and Mrs. Barber will be at home to their friends after November 13 at 1622 Church street, where they will temporarily reside. We wish them a long and happy life.

Mrs. Jennie Jones, who was so ill at Catlett, Va., recently returned home somewhat improved.

We are pleased to learn that Mrs. Charlotte Ellis of 1514 Pierce Place N. W. is able to be out again, after a very sick spell of several weeks.

Mr. Washington Thomas is still quite ill at his residence, 2212 12th street N. W., though slightly improved.

C. E. NOTES.

Mr. James R. Noss, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur E. Brown, Mrs. M. C. Dismond, Mrs. P. H. Doucho, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. P. Roy and Mr. and Mrs. McGuinn went to Anacostia last Sunday afternoon to organize a Christian Endeavor Society at the Bethlehem Baptist Church. The meeting was well attended and very enthusiastic.

A conference was called at the Nineteenth Street Baptist Church last Tuesday night to consider the advisability of having a separate Christian Endeavor Union for the colored societies. The pastors present and who took part in the discussion of the matter were Revs. J. M. Waldron, W. H. Brooks, E. E. Ricks and W. J. Howard. After the meeting had been outlined by the chairman, Mr. Lloyd C. Cuney, Mr. J. D. Pair of the Metropolitan Baptist Church was called upon to state his views as had been expressed in his paper. After an animated discussion a resolution was offered by the Rev. W. H. Brooks, which was carried, that it was the sense of the meeting that the societies of the District should remain in the Union and do all they could to promote its interests. The meeting was largely attended by the different societies, including the new society from the Bethlehem Baptist Church.

over three years ago, has indelibly fixed his status as one of the great men of the A. M. E. churches. Being a man of very meager educational advantages in early life, he has by unyielding perseverance and a close study of facts won for himself an enviable reputation as a scholar and orator and a financier of the first magnitude.

He was born in Lamar county, Texas, received his early education in the public schools of the county. Later he entered the Normal School of Paris, Tex., where he graduated with honor. Recognizing a Divine call to the ministry, and the necessity of preparation for the same, he entered Wiley University, Marshall, Tex., where, in connection with the normal work, he completed the theological course. In 1905 Guadalupe College conferred the degree of Doctor of Divinity upon him.

PULPITS AND PEWS

METROPOLITAN WESLEY A. M. B. CHURCH

The pastor and officers of the Metropolitan Wesley A. M. E. Church Southwest are perfecting plans for a grand rally, which will be conducted about five weeks, closing a short time prior to the opening of the general conference. Judging from the enthusiasm shown by the leaders of the different tribes and clubs, this will be the crowning effort put forth to raise money in this church. To further enliven the occasion the pastor, congregation and sister churches are expecting to tender Bishop Watters, who is serving temporarily in the late Bishop Smith's place, a brilliant reception on the 6th of December.

Rev. W. A. Ray, who was appointed to this charge by the Baltimore and Philadelphia conference



REV. W. A. RAY.

converted, and at once acknowledged a call to the ministry. After serving in various official capacities of the church till 1888, he was ordained as elder by the Rt. Rev. Daniel Goodsell of Paris, Tex. He was immediately given a charge in Greenville, Tex. So efficient and satisfactory was his work here that he was given other important charges in the State, which he filled to his everlasting credit. On deciding to leave the State Rev. Ray joined the Central and Missouri Conference and was given a charge in Topeka, Kans. There he found a most discouraging situation, a church dept of \$9800, a depleted membership and the church with no standing in the community. After two years of hard toil his labors were richly rewarded by reducing the debt to \$4900 and making many accessions to the church. After serving other places in the State Rev. Ray was called to his home State to look after the estate of his deceased father. While in the State this time he was joined in happy matrimony to Miss Beatrice Sutton, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Sutton of Calvert, Tex. For a period of four years Rev. Ray served his home district as presiding elder, and then accepted a call to the Avery Zion A. M. E. Church of Pittsburg, Pa. The estimate placed on his worth in the community can be seen by the quotation following, taken from the Pittsburg Evening Gazette. After reviewing at great length his works and achievements for the past three years, it says: "Rev. Ray leaves today for Washington, D. C., where he has been appointed to the Metropolitan Church by the Philadelphia and Baltimore Conference."

"Rev. Ray was appointed to the Avery Church by the late Bishop J. B. Small in December, 1904. The church at that time was weak in membership, and a contentious spirit existed among the members. It was thought the church membership would split. Owing to keen foresight in managing large church organization successfully, and his ability as a financier, Mr. Ray soon succeeded in putting the church on its feet again and also succeeded in eliminating bad feeling in the congregation.

"The congregation drew up a resolution sympathizing with the pastor on his departure from their midst and thanking him for the great amount of work he accomplished among them. They declared that if they could see any possible way to

pend in the various cities on the day the "Wizard of Tuskegee" came and excursions from the surrounding country augmented the crowds of "home folks."

Mrs. Addie R. Clarke has issued invitations to the wedding of her sister, Miss Eva Blanche Gibson, to Mr. James Symson Thomas, which will take place at high noon on Wednesday, November 16, at the family residence, 1404 Pierce Place N. W. The wedding reception will be held from 5 to 7:30 o'clock. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas will be "at home" at 2111 Druid Hill avenue, Baltimore, on November 20, from 6:30 to 9:30 o'clock.

The local Negro Business League held a meeting Monday night at the office of President Robert L. Waring. A reorganization on new and progressive lines is planned for.

Mr. Charles H. Stewart of Indianapolis, Ind., has severed his connection with the Census Office, and will return to his home to re-engage in the newspaper business.

METROPOLITAN WESLEY A. M. B. CHURCH

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recall him they would do so willingly." From Pennsylvania Rev. Ray was sent to his present charge, the Metropolitan Wesley Church, where he has done a work, looking at it from a humane standpoint, which seems almost impossible. The congregation laboring under a heavy and burdensome debt, he had restored perfect peace and harmony and greatly reduced the debt.

It is asserted by many of the older members that there has never been a time in the annals of the church when it was in a better financial, spiritual and moral condition.

MT. MORIAH BAPTIST CHURCH In keeping with the policy the pastor, Rev. J. H. Randolph, has laid out for bringing his church up to the standard of the most progressive churches in the country. He inaugurated on last Sunday the regular 11 o'clock sermon, instead of giving that service for covenant telling on communion Sundays, which is one of the many changes he hopes to make soon. He has a unique order of service which he will introduce within the next few weeks.

Sunday was a favorable day. The pastor preached a masterly sermon from Isaiah 40, Chapter 11, verse text, "He shall feed his flock like a shepherd."

Rev. and Mrs. J. H. Randolph were invited to dinner on last Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Epps, on 3d street S. W. In the evening they were invited to tea with Mr. and Mrs. Clemens, in Carrollburg Place.

Mrs. Emanuel Ward, wife of Deacon Ward, in 2d street, is still ill at her home.

Mrs. Delaney is still suffering from injuries sustained by a fall some time ago.

Rev. and Mrs. J. H. Randolph have moved from 469 N street N. W. to their artistic and commodious residence, 1336 T street N. W., where they will be permanently located.

Mr. R. W. Thompson, manager of Thompson's National News Bureau, has returned from a 10 days' tour of the State of North Carolina with Dr. Booker T. Washington. He reports that the colored people of the "Old North State" are enjoying the largest measure of prosperity, and is of the opinion that the educational pilgrimage of the "Wizard of Tuskegee" was very effective in cementing the friendly relations of the races in that section of the Southland.

RACE RELATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

The National Negro Committee is sending forth the following appeal—The Negro's Intolerable Condition Pointed Out by Eminent Afro-Americans.

AN APPEAL TO ENGLAND AND EUROPE To the People of Great Britain and Europe:

The undersigned Negro-Americans have heard, with great regret, the recent attempt to assure England and Europe that their condition in America is satisfactory. They sincerely wish that such were the case, but it becomes their plain duty to say that if Mr. Booker T. Washington, or any other person, is giving the impression abroad that the Negro problem in America is in process of satisfactory solution, he is giving an impression which is not true.

We say this without personal bitterness toward Mr. Washington. He is a distinguished American, and has a perfect right to his opinions. But we are compelled to point out that Mr. Washington's large financial responsibilities have made him dependent on the rich charitable pub-

(Continued on page 2.)